

1. Calculate the number of elements of order 2 in each of the abelian groups  $\mathbb{Z}_{16}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$ , and  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . Do the same for elements of order 4.

► **Solution.** •  $\mathbb{Z}_{16}$ :

A cyclic group has a unique subgroup of order dividing the order of the group. Thus,  $\mathbb{Z}_{16}$  has one subgroup of order 2, namely  $\langle 8 \rangle$ , which gives the only element of order 2, namely 8. There is one subgroup of order 4, namely  $\langle 4 \rangle$ , and this subgroup has 2 generators, each of order 4. Thus the 2 elements of order 4 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{16}$  are 4 and 12.

•  $\mathbb{Z}_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ :

The order of  $(r, s)$  is the least common multiple of the order of  $r$  and  $s$ . Thus elements of order 2 in  $\mathbb{Z}_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  are  $\{(0, 1), (4, 1), (4, 0)\}$ , and there are 3 elements of order 2. The elements of order 4 are  $\{(2, 0), (2, 1), (6, 0), (6, 1)\}$ , and there are 4 elements of order 4.

•  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$ :

The elements have orders 1, 2, or 4. The elements of order 2 are  $(2, 0)$ ,  $(2, 2)$ , and  $(0, 2)$ . Thus, there is 1 element of order 1 (identity), 3 elements of order 2, and the remainder have order 4, so there are 12 elements of order 4. These are all elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$  which have an element of order 4 (namely 1 or 3) in either the first coordinate or the second.

•  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ :

Again, the elements have order 1, 2, or 4. The elements of order 4 are those with an element of order 4 in the first component (the other components are  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  which have only orders of 1 and 2). There are 2 elements of order 2 in  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  (namely, 1 and 3) and there are  $2 \times 4 = 8$  elements with 1 or 3 in the first component. Since there is only 1 element of order 1, there are  $16 - 8 - 1 = 7$  elements of order 2.

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2. Prove that every abelian group of order 45 has an element of order 15. Does every abelian group of order 45 have an element of order 9?

► **Solution.** Let  $G$  be a group of order  $45 = 3^2 \cdot 5$ . By Cauchy's theorem for abelian groups, there is an element  $a \in G$  of order 3 and an element  $b$  of order 5. Let  $c = ab$ . Then, since the group  $G$  is abelian,  $c^n = a^n b^n$  for all integers  $n$ . In particular,  $c^{15} = a^{15} b^{15} = (a^3)^5 (b^5)^3 = e^5 e^3 = e$ . Therefore, the order of  $c$  divides 15, so it must be 1, 3, 5, or 15. Since  $c^3 = a^3 b^3 = e b^3 = b^3 \neq e$  (because  $|b| = 5$  and hence  $b^3 \neq e$ ) and  $c^5 = a^5 b^5 = a^2 e = a^2 \neq e$  (since  $|a| = 3$ ), it follows that the order of  $c$  cannot be 3 or 5 (or 1), so the order must be 15. Thus, any group of order 45 must have an element of order 15.

Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$ . The order of any element  $(r, s, t)$  is the least common multiple of  $\{|r|, |s|, |t|\}$ . Since  $|r|$  is 1 or 5,  $|s|$  and  $|t|$  are 1 or 3, the possible orders of elements in  $G$  are 1, 3, 5, and 15. Thus, there are no elements of order 9 in  $G$ .

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3. The symmetry group of a nonsquare rectangle is an abelian group of order 4. Is it isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ?

► **Solution.** The nonidentity elements are the reflections across the two lines joining the midpoints of opposite sides, and the rotation by  $180^\circ$ . Each of these has order 2, so the group is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . ◀

4. The set  $G = \{1, 9, 16, 22, 29, 53, 74, 79, 81\}$  is a group under multiplication modulo 91. Determine the isomorphism class of this group.

► **Solution.** The group is an abelian group of order 9, so it is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_9$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$ .  $\langle 9 \rangle = \{1, 9, 81\}$  since  $9^3 = 729 = 1 \pmod{91}$ , and  $\langle 16 \rangle = \{1, 16, 16^2 = 74 \pmod{91}\}$  since  $16^3 = 4096 = 1 \pmod{91}$ . Since  $G$  has two distinct subgroups of order 3, it cannot be cyclic (cyclic groups have a unique subgroup of each order dividing the order of the group). Thus,  $G$  must be isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$ . As an internal direct product,

$$G \cong \langle 9 \rangle \times \langle 16 \rangle.$$

5. Let  $G = \{1, 7, 17, 23, 49, 55, 65, 71\}$  under multiplication modulo 96. Express  $G$  as an external and an internal direct product of cyclic groups.

► **Solution.** First note that  $\langle 7 \rangle = \{1, 7, 49, 55\}$  and  $\langle 17 \rangle = \{1, 17\}$ . Thus,  $G$  has two distinct subgroups of order 2, namely  $\langle 49 \rangle$  and  $\langle 17 \rangle$ , so the group is not cyclic. Hence it must be  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . Since there is an element of order 4, it must be isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . An internal direct product is

$$G \cong \langle 7 \rangle \times \langle 17 \rangle.$$

6. The set  $G = \{1, 4, 11, 14, 16, 19, 26, 29, 31, 34, 41, 44\}$  is a group under multiplication modulo 45. Write  $G$  as an external and an internal direct product of cyclic groups of prime-power order.

► **Solution.**  $\langle 16 \rangle = \{1, 16, 31\}$ ,  $\langle 19 \rangle = \{1, 19\}$ , and  $\langle 26 \rangle = \{1, 26\}$ . Since

$$\langle 26 \rangle \cap \langle 16 \rangle \langle 19 \rangle = \{1, 26\} \cap \{1, 4, 16, 19, 31, 34\} = \{1\}$$

$$\langle 19 \rangle \cap \langle 16 \rangle \langle 26 \rangle = \{1, 19\} \cap \{1, 11, 16, 26, 31, 41\} = \{1\}$$

$$\langle 16 \rangle \cap \langle 19 \rangle \langle 26 \rangle = \{1, 16, 31\} \cap \{1, 19, 26, 44\} = \{1\}$$

it follows that

$$G = \langle 19 \rangle \langle 26 \rangle \langle 16 \rangle = \langle 19 \rangle \times \langle 26 \rangle \times \langle 16 \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3.$$